

**Lowhill Township
Board of Supervisors
Special Meeting on Narris Road
January 24, 2023**

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors Special Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Curtis Dietrich. Also present were Vice Chairman Michael Divers, Supervisor George Wessner, Jr., Engineer/Zoning Officer Ryan Christman, Solicitor David Brooman (zoom), Paul Creneti of Earth Engineering and Susan McGorry running zoom.

After the pledge of allegiance, Curt Dietrich spoke about this meeting being held to discuss our next steps of action to repair Narris Road.

Ryan Christman gave an update on previous fixes and the current failure. Core samples were taken to see if we can continue the wall. The bank is also failing.

Paul Creneti: This is an on-going failure and is not safe to drive on at this time. Discussed options looked at to repair. It's his professional opinion the only safe and best option is to continue the wall. It is expensive, but will last the duration of the road. Soldier piles are guaranteed to work. Looking at approximately 165'.

A discussion between Paul and Buddy on getting vegetation to grow to possibly slow down the rest of the failure.

Paul drew a picture to show Jim Mackin, owner of KOA campground, what and how it will be fixed. Estimated cost was discussed. Drone footage was shared.

Curt Dietrich discussed other possibilities, replacing the 5 ton, approximately 20' open grater bridge.

Ryan Christman got some grant money from the LCCD. We would have to do it the way they want it done if we use it for the bridge. We are looking at spending at least \$600,000.

The entrance to KOA was discussed if the above option is chosen. This could be put together fairly quickly to be put out to bid at a minimum of 165', then in increments of 5'.

Larger vehicles such as safety apparatus', propane delivery, feed for horses, etc. were discussed. Jay Scheffler, Fire Chief for Germansville Fire Company will not take a large fire apparatus over the 5 ton bridge.

Mike Divers: If it's an absolute emergency, can get you in from route 100. Looking at putting up a gate and could give emergency services a key.

Will take 2 weeks to bid and award. The bridge was evaluated by PennDot and they will not up the weight.

Ryan will get a price on the gate. Residents are going around the cones and it's just not safe. Residents can't get propane if they have to go over the 5 ton bridge.

Curt Dietrich is not comfortable with overweight vehicles going on the closed part of the road, would prefer if they can send the lightest truck they have and go over the bridge.

Resident Brian Narther is looking for a time frame.

Ryan Christman: Soonest would be mid-February to have bids, then looking at repair. Could be months.

Jim Mackin: April is one of our best months.

George Wessner: Worried about getting materials.

Resident Andre Diehl: Any way to strengthen the bridge?

Ryan Christman: There is nothing we can do quick enough. Could do something to make it 12 ton, but it's not the thing to do right now.

George Wessner: Would rather take that money to get our materials on time to fix the road.

Curt Dietrich: We have to figure out how we are going to fund this project.

Ryan Christman: LCCD will help fund about \$100,000. They are aware of this project and that the road is closed.

Funding was discussed between the Supervisors and Ryan Christman.

Jay Scheffler: Will you issue an advisory letter for emergency services?

David Brooman: Will work with Ryan to put something together and bring it to the next meeting.

They will possibly have an executive session via zoom prior to the next board meeting.

Resident Scott Frankel: Will the road be shut down for construction? Plan ahead of time for emergency vehicles.

Ryan Christman: Construction will be 3-4 weeks. The road will be open daily after construction concludes for the day.

David Brooman: Contact PFM for financing.

A discussion on April opening at KOA and motor homes and 25' trailers not being able to come in from the bridge. Jim Mackin will manage it closer to that time.

Ryan Christman will get the gate installed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm by Curtis Dietrich.

Respectfully Submitted,